GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4533
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
EXPORT OF AGRO FOOD PRODUCTS
Purandeswari Smt. Daggubati

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified agro-food processing industries as one of the key area for technological upgradation, skill enhancement and employment generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also assessed the rising demand of agro-based industries in the export market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to draw up a road map for export of agro-based products in the international market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): For promotion of food processing industries, Government has implemented the scheme for technology upgradation / establishment / modernization of food processing industries. Assistance is also provided for establishment of Food Processing & Training Centres, and for conducting Entrepreneurial Development Programme (EDP) for skill enhancement in food processing. The other major scheme of food parks provides for assistance up to Rs. 4.00 crore, for specified common facilities at the rate of 25% and 33.33% of project cost in the general and difficult areas respectively. So far, financial assistance has been sanctioned for establishment of 49 food parks in different parts of the country.

(c) to (e): Ministry of Commerce and Industry has approved 60 Agri Export Zones in the Country with a view to strengthen infrastructure facilities, produce identification, market development of products for export of Agri and Processed Products. Agricultural & Processed Food products Export Development Authority under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry assists in organizing buyers / sellers meet, assistance provided for participation in important trade fairs, development of necessary infrastructure for quality testing, pesticide residue, research and development, transport assistance etc., for agri and processed food exports.